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Date: March 23, 2004

Docket No.: 1131-0459PUS2

MS PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a Request for filing a ☐ continuation ☒ divisional
☐ continuation-in-part application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) of
pending prior Application No. 10/000,159 filed on December 4,
2001, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by
reference,
by

Yukio NAKANISHI, Akinori OTA, Katsuhiko KAN, Naohiko SHIMONO,
Kiyotaka KAWAI, Yoshisato MIYAKOSHI, Hiroaki NARITA, Toshiki
IIJIMA, and Kouichi HAGIWARA.

for

SHEET TOBACCO

1. ☒ Enclosed is an application consisting of specification,
claims, declaration and drawings/photographs (if
applicable).



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2. ☒ The filing fee has been calculated as follows:

			LARGE ENTITY	SMALL ENTITY
BASIC FEE			\$770.00	\$385.00
	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE FEE	RATE FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	14-20 =	0	x 18 = \$0.00	x 9 = \$0.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	2-3 =	0	x 86 = \$0.00	x 43 = \$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS PRESENTED			+ \$290.00	+ \$145.00
TOTAL			\$1,060.00	\$0.00

3. ☒ A check in the amount of \$1,060.00 to cover the filing fee and recording fee (if applicable) is enclosed.
4. ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2448 in the amount of \$0.00. A triplicate copy of this request is enclosed.
5. ☒ Enclosed is/are eleven (11) sheet(s) of formal drawings and/or photographs.
- 6a. ☐ A statement claiming small entity status was filed in prior Application No. 10/000,159 on _____. See the attached copy of the statement claiming small entity status.
- 6b. ☐ The current application qualifies for small entity status.
7. ☒ The prior application is assigned to 1) Japan Tobacco and 2) Japan Vilene Company, Ltd.
8. ☐ A Preliminary Amendment is enclosed.
- 9a. ☒ Priority of Application No(s). 11-157934 filed in Japan on June 4, 1999 is/are claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119. See attached copy of the Letter claiming priority filed in the prior application on July 2, 2003.
- 9b. ☐ Priority of International Appln. _____ filed on _____ under the Patent Cooperation Treaty and _____ Application No. _____ filed in _____ on _____ under 35 U.S.C. § 120 and/or § 119 are hereby reclaimed.

10. ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement and PTO-1449 form(s) are attached hereto for the Examiner's consideration.
11. ☒ Address all future communications to:

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
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or
Customer No. 02292
12. ☐ An extension of time for _____ () month(s) until _____ has been submitted in parent Application No. 10/000,159 in order to establish co-pendency with the present application.
13. ☐ Also enclosed herewith is the following:

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By James M. Slattery #41,458
James M. Slattery, #28,380

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JMS/SB:kdm
1131-0459PUS2

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Attachment(s)

(Rev. 02/13/2004)